



Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

HJR 9

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

Relating to the construction of a train slip rail car loading facility at Seward.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS it is recognized by the Alaska Legislature that most freight being shipped into interior Alaska at this time arrives in freight cars aboard barges; and

WHEREAS these barges are currently unloaded principally at the Port of Whittier direct to the Alaska Railroad rails; and

WHEREAS, if an emergency should occur such as the closure of tunnels on the existing rail route from Whittier by an earth slide, earthquake, or even by an enemy military action, no provision has been made for an alternate train slip-type car unloading facility; and

WHEREAS freight tonnage projections by the North Commission indicate tonnages in excess of what can be handled through the Whittier Port when North Slope activities are in full gear; and

WHEREAS the City of Seward has recently seen the completion of a new \$15,000,000 dock facility which does not include a train slip for handling rail cars;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Seventh State Legislature that the Congress of the United States is respectfully requested to provide the Alaska Railroad with sufficient funds to enable that entity to build a train slip rail car loading facility at Seward which would safeguard, in all contingencies, Alaska's freight handling capability, and which would enable the new Seward dock facility to be utilized to the utmost.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John A. Volpe, Secretary of Transportation; the Honorable John E. Manley, General Manager, Alaska Railroad; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.